

**SOCIETY VERSE BY
AMERICAN WRITERS.
EDITED BY ERNEST
DE LANCEY PIERSON**

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Society Verse by American Writers. Edited by Ernest de Lancey Pierson by Various

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VARIOUS

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EDITED BY

ERNEST DE LANCEY PIERSON

*Author of "A Slave of Circumstances" and "The Shadow
of the Bars"*

CHICAGO, NEW YORK, AND SAN FRANCISCO

BELFORD, CLARKE & CO.

PUBLISHERS

1897

TO
Mrs. JAMES BARROW
("AUNT FANNY")



PREFATORY NOTE.

In these degenerate days, when nearly every newspaper employs a professional verse writer, it would require a dozen bulky quartos to properly represent that melodious army who fill, or try to fill, our continent with song. The editor has only attempted in this collection of vers de société to present the best productions of the younger school of poets and poetasters, whose work still possesses the charm of novelty, and is worthy of being preserved.

Many of the verses in this volume have been gathered from the periodical literature of the past decade, and a number of excellent pieces are here published for the first time. When we consider that it is hardly more than a dozen years ago since society verse began to engage the attention of American writers, this collection certainly points to an encouraging future for our light school of song.

The congenial task which the editor began is now completed, and he would again renew his thanks to the authors and publishers who have made this volume a possibility and, may it be hoped?—a success.

ERNEST DE LANCEY PIERSON.

New-York, April 2, 1857.

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